

NOT VOTING—4

Gramm
KennedyMcCain
Shelby

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. LOTT. I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. NICKLES. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENT—RULE XVI

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I have consulted with the Democratic leader on the unanimous-consent request I am fixing to propound. I think it is a reasonable solution to deal with a couple of very important issues.

I ask unanimous consent when the Senate convenes on Monday, July 26, it proceed to an original resolution, to be placed on the calendar by the majority leader immediately following the acceptance of this agreement, and the resolution be considered under the following restraints:

That the resolution be limited to 3 hours for each leader or his designee; that there be one amendment in order for the Democratic leader regarding restoring the point of order on exceeding the scope of conference, which debate time shall come out of the resolution time; and that final adoption of the resolution must occur prior to close of business of the Senate on Monday, July 26; Provided further that when the Senate considers the agricultural disaster relief amendment to be offered by Senator DASCHLE, or his designee, to the agriculture appropriations bill, no rule XVI point of order lie against the amendment.

Mr. HARKIN. Reserving the right to object, I tried to listen to all of the verbiage. I understand that Senator DASCHLE or his designee would be allowed to offer the emergency agriculture package without any rule XVI, but to what bill? To what measure would the Democratic leader be permitted to offer that?

Mr. LOTT. To the agricultural appropriations bill.

Mr. HARKIN. Agricultural appropriations. And that will come up before we leave in August?

Mr. LOTT. Right.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Reserving the right to object, I ask the leader a question. I assume a second-degree amendment to the first-degree concerning agriculture would be out of order under rule XVI?

Mr. LOTT. Amendments thereto would have to be protected in the same way in order for that to go forward. We can't have one amendment in order and not have amendments thereto be in order also.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I will have to object.

Mr. LOTT. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, now I understand the reservation that the Senator from Wisconsin has, and we can clarify that.

Let me read the last paragraph again. I think it will make it clear:

Provided that when the Senate considers the agricultural disaster relief amendment to be offered by Senator DASCHLE, or his designee, to the agriculture appropriations bill, no rule XVI point of order lie against the amendment or amendments thereto relating to the same subject.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, if I could, this just provides for a fair opportunity for debate on the restoration of the rule XVI issue that we talked about earlier today which would allow Members to have a debate on that and a vote. If rule XVI is put back into place, of course, legislation on appropriations bills will be limited, unless there is a rule by the Chair and it gets 51 votes.

We also have to debate and vote on the question of scope issues coming back out of conference.

When we do bring up agriculture appropriations before the August recess, there will be one amendment relating to disaster relief by Senator DASCHLE or his designee, and we will have an opportunity to have our amendment on the same subject. It will not relate to dairy, I make that clear.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000—Continued

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, with regard to tonight, we need to just keep going forward. Senator REID, as usual, is doing good work. The managers, Senator JUDD GREGG and Senator HOLLINGS, have been working. I think if we will be serious—and I don't think a lot of Senators are on either side—in trying to get this completed, we still have a raft of amendments that either need to be accepted or withdrawn.

I tried to see if we could do the work in the daylight, and I tried to see if we could do it on Mondays or Fridays. None of that seems to suit the Senate. I think we ought to keep going as late as it takes to finish this legislation. That way, we can get it completed. So it is at your pleasure. I live on Capitol Hill, so I will be at home watching you all on TV and wishing you the best. When the votes are ready, I will come back and vote. It is up to the Senators. Do we get rid of this long list of amendments that Senator REID and Senator GREGG have been working on and keep going on into the night, or we can come in tomorrow. I am flexible either way. We have to get this bill done. I think we ought to keep going.

I hope Senators will get serious about getting rid of some of these amendments. There is no reason we shouldn't have another vote or two and final passage. I hope we can get that done. This is not aimed at one side or the other. It is on both sides. Let's get serious and complete this bill.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I take a moment to thank the majority leader for his willingness to work with us and cooperate to the point that he has tonight to reach the agreement we have for Monday. I believe this is a fair compromise. We will have an opportunity to debate it, offer an amendment, and have the vote. We will also have the opportunity to have a good discussion about how we might proceed with agriculture disasters. I think this accommodates many of the concerns we have raised.

I also must share his hope that we can finish this bill at a reasonable hour. It is 9 o'clock. There is no reason within the next hour we couldn't finish this bill. I appreciate especially the deputy minority leader for all of the work he has done to get us to this point. We are down to a couple of amendments on our side. I am hopeful we can finish. There is no reason we can't do it reasonably soon.

I yield the floor.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, first of all, what is the parliamentary situation right now on the floor?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The pending amendment is the Gregg amendment, No. 1272.

Mr. HARKIN. I ask unanimous consent to set that amendment aside and call up an amendment.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, the Senator from Iowa wants to discuss an amendment that has been agreed to for 6 minutes, is that so?

Mr. HARKIN. About 6 minutes. I want to call it up first.

Mr. GREGG. Is it necessary to call it up?

Mr. HARKIN. I would like to call up my amendment.

Mr. REID. We are going to put it in the managers' amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair cannot hear. We have quite a lot of racket here in left field. If we could take those conversations to the Cloakroom, it would sure help us proceed with the business at hand.

The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. HARKIN. I was under the understanding I was going to bring up my amendment, I would talk for 5 minutes, they would accept it, and that would be the end of it.

Mr. GREGG. No objection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 1304

(Purpose: To provide \$100,000,000 in Byrne grant funding offset by reducing funds for travel, supplies, and printing expenses in the bill by 5.8 percent and cutting funds for preliminary work on possible Supreme Court improvements)

Mr. HARKIN. I ask consent to set aside the pending amendment. I have